

Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP)
Required Information and Evaluation Criteria for Projects Nominated for CIAP
Funding

Information Required for all CIAP project Nomination submittals:

1. **Project Title:** St. Charles Parish Wetland Education Center
2. **Entity/Individual nominating the project:** St. Charles Parish (Earl Matherne)
3. **Contact Information:** St. Charles Parish
Coastal Zone Management Section
Earl Matherne
P.O. Box 302
Hahnville, Louisiana 70057
985-783-5060
ematherne@stcharlesgov.net
4. **Total CIAP funds requested:** \$3,000,000
5. **Description and Location of Project:** Construction of the first phase on the St. Charles Parish Wetland Education center. This first phase will provide the basis for a 3 phase education center and will include one classroom, one laboratory and administrative and convenience space (restroom, kitchen). The project is to be located on the Shoreline of Lake Pontchartrain near the Bonnet Carre' Spillway in Norco, Louisiana. The site is owned by St. Charles Parish and is already used and an education area, which includes a jetty and a nature trail.
6. **Project Type:** Conservation, restoration and protection of coastal area, including wetlands.
7. **Project Justification:** St. Charles Parish is located in both the Pontchartrain and Barataria Basins of Louisiana. The proposed site is centrally located and easily accessible to schoolchildren in St. Charles Parish and surrounding parishes. The site offers a diversity rarely seen in Louisiana. The site offers experience from freshwater to brackish water environments, open water environments, marsh and forested wetlands, all on 28 acres. While the site is heavily used by science teachers now, educating over 600 kids this year, the lack of permanent facilities limits its potential. Permanent facilities will provide safe clean restrooms and shelter from the elements, specifically the heat. It will also allow scientific equipment to be readily accessible at the site and available to more teachers, therefore more students.



Proposed Wetland Education Center

Wetland Education Center
CIAP Submission
St. Charles Parish